

CLAIMS

1. A method for selectively printing a desired portion of a web page, comprising the steps of:
 - passing a named tag element for the desired portion into the desired portion of the web page;
 - querying the named tag element for an inner Hyper-Text Markup Language block for the desired portion;
 - opening a browser window;
 - creating a stream of text for the desired portion and sending the stream of text to the browser; and
 - activating printing, by the browser, of the stream of text.
2. The method of claim 1 further including, after printing is completed by the browser, the step of closing the browser.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein sending the stream of text to the browser includes using a scripting language to send the stream of text to a separate browser window for printing.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the scripting language is Javascript®.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein creating a stream of text for the desired portion and sending the stream of text to the browser is accomplished without downloading additional content to a user's computer.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein creating a stream of text for the desired portion and sending the stream of text to the browser is accomplished without installing plug-in routines.

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7. The method of claim 1 wherein creating a stream of text for the desired portion and sending the stream of text to the browser is accomplished without installing executable programs.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein creating a stream of text for the desired portion and sending the stream of text to the browser is accomplished without installing ActiveX® controls.
9. A method for selectively printing a desired portion of a web page, comprising the steps of:
- navigating to the web page; and
 - activating a mechanism that invokes a scripting function associated with the desired portion of the web page wherein the mechanism:
 - defines an image tag with an event attribute for calling a function for printing the desired portion and the function includes a named tag element and source attribute defining a Hyper-Text Markup Language block for the desired portion; and
 - identifies the named tag element with an identification attribute associated with the desired portion; and
 - printing, by the browser, the desired portion of the web page.
10. The method of claim 9 further including, after printing is completed by the browser, the step of closing the browser.
11. The method of claim 9 further including, immediately before printing, by the browser, the desired portion, the step of using a scripting language to send the stream of text to a separate browser window for printing.
12. The method of claim 11 wherein the scripting language is Javascript®.

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13. The method of claim 9 wherein printing, by the browser, the desired portion is accomplished without downloading additional content to a user's computer.
14. The method of claim 9 wherein printing, by the browser, the desired portion is accomplished without installing plug-in routines.
15. The method of claim 9 wherein printing, by the browser, the desired portion creating a stream of text for the desired portion and sending the stream of text to the browser is accomplished without installing executable programs.
16. The method of claim 9 wherein printing, by the browser, the desired portion is accomplished without installing ActiveX® controls.
17. A system for selectively printing a desired portion of a web page, comprising:
- a PrintNow mechanism for invoking a scripting function, arranged to, when activated, call up a print function for the desired portion of the web page;
 - a named tag unit of the print function that is arranged to surround HTML that defines the desired portion of the web page and that is coupled to the PrintNow mechanism, for passing a tagged element for the desired portion into another web page;
 - a query unit, coupled to the named tag unit, for querying the tagged element for an inner Hyper-Text Markup Language block for the desired portion; and
 - a browser application software unit, containing the query unit and arranged to provide control of a browser, for opening a browser window, and for, when a streaming unit that is coupled to the browser application software unit creates a stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser, activating printing of the stream of text.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein, when printing is completed by the browser, the browser application software unit closes the browser.
19. The system of claim 17 wherein the streaming unit utilizes a scripting language to send the stream of text to a separate browser window for printing.
20. The system of claim 19 wherein the scripting language is JavaScript®.
21. The system of claim 17 wherein the streaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser without downloading additional content to a user's computer.
22. The system of claim 17 wherein the steaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser is without installing plug-in routines.
23. The system of claim 17 wherein the streaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser without installing executable programs.
24. The system of claim 17 wherein the streaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser without installing ActiveX® controls.
25. A system for selectively printing a desired portion of a web page, comprising:
- a navigating unit, coupled to receive a request from a user to navigate to the web page, for navigating to the web page; and
 - a portion-select printer mechanism that can invoke a scripting function associated with the desired portion of the web page, coupled to the

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defines an image tag with an event attribute for calling a

identifies the name tag element with an identification attribute associated with the selected portion; and

upon receiving the activation signal, activates printing, by the browser, of the desired portion of the web page.

26. The system of claim 25 wherein the portion-select printer mechanism associated with the desired portion of the web page, after printing of the desired portion is completed by the browser, closes the browser.
27. The system of claim 25 wherein the portion-select printer mechanism associated with the desired portion of the web page activates a streaming unit that uses a scripting language to send the stream of text to a separate browser window for printing.
28. The system of claim 27 wherein the scripting language is Javascript®.
29. The system of claim 27 wherein the streaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser without downloading additional content to a user's computer.
30. The system of claim 27 wherein the streaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser without installing plug-in routines.

31. The system of claim 27 wherein the streaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser without installing executable programs.

32. The system of claim 27 wherein the streaming unit creates the stream of text for the desired portion and sends the stream of text to the browser without installing ActiveX® controls.

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